

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/986,809

Examiner

Joseph E. Avellino

Applicant(s)

LENNON ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to supplemental amendment dated 2/2/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 118, 120-124, 133, 134, 137, 138 (renumbered 1-10).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date herewith.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Magluyan on April 4, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

The TITLE shall read: Transferring a media browsing session from one device to a second device by transferring a session identifier and a session key to the second device

In the specification:

Page 6, line 15: please delete "Fig. 15" and insert ---Figs. 15A and 15B---.

In the claims:

118. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of transferring a media browsing session, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) establishing via a first device a media browsing session upon the first device and sourced via a media browsing server;

(b) detecting user actuation of a control on the first device to cause the first device to:

(i) transfer to a second device a session identifier and a key for decoding the media associated with the media browsing session;

(ii) receive from the second device an identification thereof known to the media browsing server; and

(iii) transfer the received identification of the second device to the media browsing server; and

(c) the media browsing server thereby terminating an output of the media browsing session to the first device and directing the output of the media session to the second device and modifying a quality of service of the media browsing session dependent upon reproduction attributes of the second device.

Claim 119 has been cancelled.

120. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 118 449, wherein the modifying alters the media browsing session from a form reproducible by the first device to a form reproducible by the second device.

122. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 118 449, wherein, when the second device offers a higher quality of reproduction of the media browsing session than that of the first device, and step (c) comprises a commercial transaction to enable the modifying.

123. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method according to claim 118 449, wherein the media browsing session is originated at a selected quality of service and reproduction of the media browsing session on each device is performed at a maximum

quality of service afforded by that corresponding device and no reproduction is better than the selected quality of service.

137. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium having a computer program recorded thereon and adapted to make a first device transfer a media browsing session, said program comprising:

code for establishing a media browsing session upon the first device and sourced via a media browsing server; and

code for detecting user actuation of a control on the first device to cause the first device to:

(i) transfer to a second device a session identifier and a key for decoding the media associated with the media browsing session;

(ii) receive from the second device an identification thereof known to the media browsing server; and

(iii) transfer the received identification of the second device to the media browsing server;

the media browsing server thereby terminating an output of the media browsing session to the first device and directing the output of the media session to the second device and modifying a quality of service of the media browsing session dependent upon reproduction attributes of the second device.

138. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A multimedia reproduction device comprising:

means for establishing a media browsing session upon the multimedia reproduction device and sourced via a media browsing server; and

means for detecting user actuation of a control on the multimedia reproduction device to cause the multimedia reproduction device to:

(i) transfer to a further multimedia reproduction device a session identifier and a key for decoding the media associated with the media browsing session;

(ii) receive from the further multimedia reproduction device an identification thereof known to the media browsing server; and

(iii) transfer the received identification of the further multimedia reproduction device to the media browsing server;

the media browsing server thereby terminating an output of the media browsing session to the original multimedia reproduction device and directing the output of the media session to the further multimedia reproduction device and modifying a quality of service of the media browsing session dependent upon reproduction attributes of the further multimedia reproduction device.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not provide for, nor suggest providing for a system for transferring a media browsing session from one device to another in order to halt output of a stream such as a video or audio from one device to another device by redirecting the session at the server. The first device negotiates with the second device directly to determine if the second device is available to receive the stream, the first device receives an identification and transfers this information to the server, which then performs the switch. The first device transfers a session identifier and a session key to the second device included in metadata about the session. This metadata is utilized to negotiate with the server for extra payment for an enhanced quality of service which can be utilized by the second device. The handoff is conducted and is conditional upon the destination device upon which the reproduction is to be performed. The closest prior art of record is the combination of Wang in view of Parsons, however these references together do not provide a way for detecting user actuation of a control on a first device (i.e. pushing a button on the first device), rather Wang is dealing with redirecting a session between different servers, which is different than redirecting the session to a different rendering device. For these reasons, in conjunction with the other limitations of the independent claims, put this case in condition for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph E. Avellino whose telephone number is (571) 272-3905. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JEA
April 4, 2006



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